emphasis on conservation of forests;

(ii) To assist the States and Union Territories in preparation of the proposals involving diversion forest lands for non-forestry purposes under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 for expeditious processing and disposal of such cases;

(iii) To undertake physical inspection of sites in cases of diversion of forests involving an area of more than 40 ha.;

(iv) To monitor the implementation of conditions and safeguards stipulated by the Central Government in regard to diversions approved under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

(v) To assist the States and Union Territories in the preparation of management plans for working of forests under their control within the framework of guidelines issued by the Central Government from time to time; and

(vi) To assist the States and Union Territories in streamlining collection, collation, storage and retrieval of data covering all the facts of forests and forestry activities and to transmit such data to the Central Government|Central data, processing Centre.

B. *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Function*

(i) To follow implementation of conditions and safeguards laid down for projects/activities when environmental clearnce is given;

(ii) To follow up pollution control measures taken by industries, local bodies, Government (Central/State) Undertakings, etc.

(iii) To collect and furnish information relating to environmental impact assessment of projects, pollution control measures, methodology and status, legal and enenforcement measures; environmental protection in special conservation areas like wetlands, mangroves and biosphere reserves; and

(iv) To maintain liaison and provide linkage with the concerned States Government, with Central Government agencies, (including Regional Offices of Botanical Survey of India, Forest Survey of India and Zoological Survey of India with Project Authorities, with the Regional Offices of the Central Pollution Control Board; with State Pollution Control Boards and with non Government organisations involved in implementation of programmes relating to environment.

Top-level vacancies in NTC

904. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of top-level positions in the National Textile Corporation (NTC) are lying vacant for a long time; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons for the delay in filling up the posts?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) The details of Board level vacancies in NTC (Holding Company) and its subsidiary corporation are given below:

Name of the Post	Date from which vacant
NTC (Holding Company)	
(i) Director (Finance)	21.12.1986
(ii) Director (Technical)	1.10.1986
Subsidiary Corporations of NTC :	
Chairman-cum-Managing Director	
(i) NTC (UP) Ltd.	12.9.1985
(ii) NTC (WBABO) Ltd.	15.12.1987
(iii) NTC (Gujarat) Ltd.	17.11.1987
Director (Finance) :	
(i) NTC (WBABO) Ltd.	1.5.1988
Director (Technical)	
(i) NTC (APKK & M) Ltd.	3.7.1986
(ii) NTC (DP and R) Ltd.,	22.11.1985
(iii) NTC (TN and P)	1.2.1987
(iv) NTC (MN) Ltd..	1.3.1988
(v) NTC (MP) Ltd.	3.9.1985
(vi) NTC (SM) Ltd.	17.7.1988

The reasons for delay in the filling up of vacancies include non-availability of suitable candidates.

Fall in Foreign exchange reserves

905. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI N. E. BALRAM:
SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a sharp decline in Indian's foreign exchange reserves recently;

((b) if so, what are the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(c) what will be its impact on the import schedule of the country; and

(d) what stepse are being taken by Government to arrest this decline?

THE MINISER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) India's foreign exchange reserves (excluding Gold and Special Drawing Rights) declined by Rs.